

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A fuel container formed by bonding upper and lower sections, for which both the upper and lower sections are made by thermo-forming a multi-layer sheet that comprises an interlayer of a barrier resin (A) and inner and outer layers of a polyolefin (B), and of which the surface of the ~~innermost~~ inner layer opposite to the interlayer is coated with a layer of a barrier material (C).

Claim 2 (Original): The fuel container as claimed in claim 1, wherein the barrier resin (A) is at least one selected from polyvinyl alcohol resins, polyamides and aliphatic polyketones.

Claim 3 (Original): The fuel container as claimed in claim 1, wherein the barrier resin (A) is an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer having an ethylene content of from 5 to 60 mol% and a degree of saponification of at least 85%.

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Claim 4 (Original): The method of producing a shaped article as claimed in claim 1, the barrier resin (A) is a resin composition comprising from 50 to 95% by weight of an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer and from 5 to 50 % by weight of a boronic acid-modified polyolefin.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The fuel container as claimed in claim 1, wherein the gasoline permeation through the barrier resin (A) is at most  $100 \text{ g} \cdot 20 \text{ } \mu\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{day}$ , measured at 40°C and 65 % RH relative humidity.

Claim 6 (Original): The fuel container as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polyolefin (B) is high-density polyethylene.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The fuel container as claimed in claim 1, wherein the gasoline permeation through the barrier material (C) is at most  $400 \text{ g} \cdot 20 \text{ } \mu\text{m}/\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{day}$ , measured at  $40^\circ\text{C}$  and 65 % ~~RH~~ relative humidity.

Claim 8 (Original): The fuel container as claimed in claim 1, wherein the barrier material (C) is at least one selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl alcohol resins, polyamide resins, aliphatic polyketones, polyester resins, polyvinyl chloride resins and polyvinylidene chloride resins.

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Claim 9 (Original): The fuel container as claimed in claim 1, wherein the barrier material (C) is an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer having an ethylene content of from 5 to 60 mol% and a degree of saponification of at least 85%.

Claim 10 (Original): The fuel container as claimed in claim 1, wherein the surface of the inner layer of the multi-layer sheet that constitutes the thermo-formed upper and lower sections is sprayed with a powder of the barrier material (C).

Claim 11 (Original): The fuel container as claimed in claim 10, wherein the surface of the inner layer of the multi-layer sheet that constitutes the thermo-formed upper and lower sections is sprayed with a powder of the barrier material (C) according to a flame spray coating process.

Claim 12 (Original): The fuel container as claimed in claim 10, wherein a powder of the barrier material (C) is sprayed over the surface of the inner layer of the multi-layer sheet that constitutes the thermo-formed upper and lower sections, at least around the bonded part of the sections, according to a flame spray coating process.

Claim 13 (Original): The fuel container as claimed in claim 10, wherein a powder of the barrier material (C) is sprayed over the surface of the inner layer of the multi-layer sheet, and the thickness of the coat layer of the barrier material (C) falls between 1 and 500  $\mu\text{m}$ .

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Claim 14 (Original): The fuel container as claimed in claim 1, wherein the surface of the inner layer of the multi-layer sheet that constitutes the thermo-formed upper and lower sections is coated with the barrier material (C) according to a solution coating or emulsion coating process.

Claim 15 (Original): The fuel container as claimed in claim 14, wherein the surface of the inner layer of the multi-layer sheet is coated with the barrier material (C) according to a solution coating or emulsion coating process, and the thickness of the coat layer of the barrier material (C) falls between 0.1 and 50  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 16 (Withdrawn; currently amended): A method for producing a the fuel container of claim 1, which includes comprising:

thermo-forming a multi-layer sheet that comprises an interlayer of a barrier resin (A) and inner and outer layers of a polyolefin (B) into two thermo-formed multi-layer sections, then

coating the inner ~~surface~~ layer opposite to the interlayer of each section with a layer of a barrier material (C), and thereafter

heat-sealing the open-end edges of the two sections to complete a fuel container.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn; currently amended): ~~A method for producing a~~ the fuel container of claim 1, which includes comprising:

B2 thermo-forming a multi-layer sheet that comprises an interlayer of a barrier resin (A) and inner and outer layers of a polyolefin (B) into two thermo-formed multi-layer sections, then

coating the inner ~~surface~~ layer opposite to the interlayer of each section except the area of open-end edge thereof with a layer of a barrier material (C), and thereafter heat-sealing the open-end edges of the two sections to complete a fuel container.

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Claim 18 (New): A fuel container as claimed in claim 1, further comprising fuel stored in said container.